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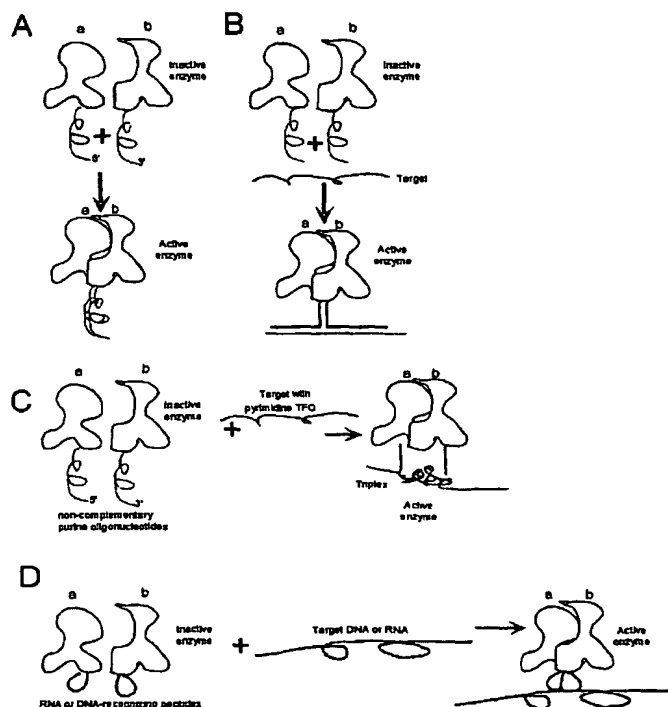
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(54) Title: NUCLEIC ACID SUPPORTED PROTEIN COMPLEMENTATION

Protein complementation supported by nucleic acid interactions



(57) Abstract: The present invention is directed to novel methods for *in vitro* and *in vivo* detection of target nucleic acid molecules, including DNA and RNA targets, as well as nucleic acid analogues. The present invention is based on protein complementation, in which two individual polypeptides are inactive. When the two inactive polypeptide fragment are brought in close proximity during hybridization to a target nucleic acid, they re-associate into an active, detectable protein.